



Isiah Leggett, County Executive
Timothy Firestone, Chief Administrator Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director
Mark Firley, UCAB Chair

December 4, 2015

Water Main Break on Hempstone Avenue, Poolesville

A water main break has been reported on Hempstone Avenue. Residents in this area may experience loss of service for several hours. Once service is restored, residents should flush lines for a few minutes to remove air.

Joint Meeting of UCAB's Quality of Life Committee & Land Use Committee

Monday, December 7 7:00pm

**Upcounty Regional Services Center
12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown**

Topic: "Ways to Strengthen the Agricultural Reserve"
Guests: Jeremy Criss, County Office of Agriculture; Caroline Taylor, Montgomery Countryside Alliance; and Michele Cropp, Montgomery County Farm Bureau

Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible, but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If these or other services or aids are needed to participate in this activity, please call 240-777-8040 or email a request to catherine.mathews@montgomerycountymd.gov.



Montgomery County Council Elects Nancy Floreen as President, Roger Berliner as Vice President for 2015-2016



On Tuesday, December 1st, the Montgomery County Council unanimously elected Nancy Floreen as president and Roger Berliner as vice president of the Council. They will serve one-year terms as officers of the Council.

Council President Floreen, who serves at-large, has been an at-large member of the Council since she was first elected in 2002. She chaired the Council's Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment (T&E) Committee until 2010, when she became chair of the Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED) Committee. She remains a member of the T&E Committee. In 2010, Council President Floreen was elected by her colleagues to serve as Council president.

Vice President Berliner was first elected in 2006. He represents District 1, which includes the western part of the County from the Washington, D.C., line to the Frederick County border. District 1 includes the communities of Bethesda, Cabin John, Chevy Chase, Garrett Park, Glen Echo, Friendship Heights, North Bethesda, Potomac, Poolesville, Randolph Hills and Somerset. In 2011, he was elected by his colleagues to serve as Council president.

Read more, including Council President Floreen's remarks at
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/news/pr/pr_details.html

Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board General Meeting

**Monday, December 14 7:00pm
Upcounty Regional Services Center
12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown**

Topics: Updates on Recommendations from Ad Hoc Committee on Liquor Control & Nighttime Economy Task Force

Guests: County Councilmember Hans Riemer, (At-Large) & Lily Qi, Office of the County Executive

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Holiday Magic Show

**Saturday, December 12 1:00pm-4:00pm
Plum Gar Community Recreation Center
19561 Scenery Drive, Germantown**

Experience the high energy magic and comedy of "Speed." After the show, stay for Karaoke, crafts and light refreshments. This is a free event.

Redskins Game Day Event & Cornhole Tournament

**Sunday, December 13
Plum Gar Community Recreation Center
19561 Scenery Drive, Germantown**

Pre-game activities/Cornhole Tournament 11:00am-3:00pm
Registration is mandatory – online or on-site (Activity #12783)

Watch the Game on Large Screen 1:00pm-4:00pm
Food will be available to purchase

Montgomery County Public Schools to Hold Public Information Meeting on Process to Address Overutilization of Gaithersburg Cluster Schools

**Thursday, December 17 7:30pm-9:00pm
Gaithersburg High School – Media Center
101 Education Boulevard
Gaithersburg, MD 20877**

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) is beginning a "Tri-Cluster Roundtable Discussion Group" process to consider approaches to addressing overutilization of Gaithersburg Cluster schools. Representatives of the Gaithersburg, Magruder and Wootton clusters will participate on the roundtable. A public information meeting is scheduled for December 17, 2015 from 7:30 to 9:00 pm in the Media Center of Gaithersburg High School. The following link provides additional information. You may also contact the MCPS Division of Long-range Planning at 240-314-4700.

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/roundtable.aspx>

Police Urge Public to Assist with Holiday Alcohol Initiative

<http://www.mymcpnews.com/2012/11/29/alcohol-holiday-task-force>

"Be Safer this Holiday Season"

This message bears repeating and we hope you'll do just that with all your family and friends. The County has launched a "Be Safer this Holiday Season" campaign urging everyone to Be Seen, Be Alert, and Be Responsible. Did you know that by the end of November, Montgomery County Police had investigated 34 fatal traffic collisions causing 35 deaths? Sadly, the last quarter of the year, which includes the holiday season, has traditionally been the most dangerous time of year for drivers and pedestrians. The increased activity; shopping, parties, and alcohol consumption, combined with increased darkness due to the absence of Daylight Saving Time increases the risk factors.

What you should know and share with others:

- **Be Seen:** If you are buying a new winter coat, consider purchasing a light-colored one, or at the very least, wear a white scarf and white gloves. Look for athletic clothing with reflective patches and check out what is available at running stores that increases visibility. Don't assume that just because you can see a vehicle, that the driver can see you.
- **Be Alert:** Give full attention when walking or driving. Remember, Maryland is a Hands-Free state, no texting or even holding a cell phone while driving. Distracted driving continues to be a leading cause of collisions. And, when walking by a roadway or crossing streets don't wear ear buds and don't be looking down at a cell phone.
- **Be Responsible:** Don't drink and drive and don't host a party for teens that includes alcohol. The most responsible party hosts will ensure that no guest drives after drinking and will enforce a zero tolerance for alcohol use by guests under age 21.

The holidays are always a busy time of the year, but everyone needs to take some time to think about safety. Learn more at: http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?PrID=15543

Affordable Care Act - Open Health Enrollment

Open enrollment for health insurance coverage under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) begins Sunday, November 1 and is open until January 31, 2016. Under the ACA, adults age 18 to 64 years of age must have health coverage or will pay a tax penalty.

The Maryland Health Connection is the state's insurance online insurance marketplace and beginning November 1, eligible Montgomery and Prince George's County residents who need health coverage will have three easy ways to enroll: Sign up is simple and available online at www.marylandhealthconnection.gov any time (24 hours/7 days a week). Sign up by telephone at 1-855-642-8572 (toll free) or 1-855-8573 (TTY).

Meet in person with a health navigator to complete enrollment. Find out where sign up locations are at www.capitalhealthconnection.org/sign-up-locations.

Election Judges Needed for 2016 Presidential Election

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Elections/PressReleases2016/ElectionJudgesNeeded.html>



County Executive to Hold FY2017 Operating Budget Forums 7:00pm-8:30pm

- [Eastern Regional Services Center: January 6th, 2016.](#)
- [BCC Regional Services Center: January 11th, 2016.](#)
- [Silver Spring Civic Building: January 20th, 2016.](#)
- [Mid-County Community Recreation Center: January 21st, 2016.](#)
- [BlackRock Center for the Arts: January 25th, 2016. \(for Upcounty Regional Office\)](#)

County Executive's Summit on Aging: Seniors Survey Offers High Rating for Montgomery County Quality of Life

More than 2,000 respondents to the 2015 Montgomery County Age Friendly Community Survey offered their input about community characteristics, quality of amenities and how they find the County as a place to live. Eighty-nine percent of respondents, age 55 and older, rated the overall quality of life in Montgomery County as good or excellent.

Surveys were collected between September and November to help inform the [County Executive's Summit on Aging](#), held December 3 at the Silver Spring Civic Building. The Summit was convened to celebrate accomplishments, listen to the community and consider ways to make further improvements in programs and services for seniors in Montgomery County: Survey responses were considered as part of workshop discussions and suggestions.

At the Summit, Montgomery County became the first in Maryland to join the network of AARP-World Health Organization Age-Friendly Communities. The County also became the second in Maryland to join the Dementia Friendly America Initiative.

County's New Law Against Predatory Towing

Montgomery County's new towing law, Bill 17-15, passed unanimously by the County Council on July 21 and signed into law by the County Executive, is now in effect. The new law is designed to address overly aggressive and predatory towing practices and restore regulatory balance in commercial and residential parking lots.

Find more information from [County's consumer protection.](#)

- [Watch news from Ch 4](#)
- [Press Release](#)

The Perfect Holiday Gift for your Dog or Cat

Trying to decide what would make the perfect holiday gift for your dog or cat? We've got the answer, and you can shop for it on line. It's a Montgomery County Pet License! It can also save your pet's life. If your dog or cat gets lost during this busy holiday season, an immediately visible license tag on your pet's collar is the fastest way to be reunited with your lost pet. It is the law that dogs and cats four months of age or older must wear current rabies and pet license tags. Because a license can only be issued with proof of regular vaccination against the deadly rabies virus, it also serves as a reminder to keep that critical vaccination up to date. You can get all the details at:

<https://montgomerycountymd.gov/animalservices/asd/licensing.html>.



If you love them, you'll license them...and it's the law!

For more News from the Office of the County Executive, visit: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/news>

For other news and meeting agendas, visit:

County Council <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/cshtml.asp?url=/content/council/news/news.asp>

Planning Board http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/departments/news_releases

Also check out the latest from:

Department of Public Libraries <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library>

Department of Recreation <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/rectmpl.asp?url=/content/rec/index.asp>

Department of Transportation <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot/index.html>

Department of Environmental Protection <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/deatmpl.asp?url=/content/dep/dephome/index.asp>

Department of Permitting Services <http://permittingservices.montgomerycountymd.gov/DPS/general/Home.aspx>

Montgomery County Volunteer Center <http://www.montgomeryserves.org>

Office of Community Partnerships <http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs100/1102184431012/archive/1117215431562.html>

Commission for Women <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw/index.html>